

California Field Crop Review



Frequency: Monthly
Released: June 16, 1997

(USPS 598-270)
VOL. 18 NO. 6



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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The U.S. estimate for Durum wheat production for states other than Arizona and California will not be available until July 11, 1997.

WHEAT FORECAST

The California winter wheat forecast, at 741 thousand tons, is unchanged from last month, but down 35 percent from last year. Acreage harvested for grain is 31 percent below last year. As of June 1, harvest progress was nearly two weeks ahead of normal in the San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys. Yields are expected to be 1.95 tons per acre, down 6 percent from 1996.

U.S. winter wheat production is forecast at 48.1 million tons. This is up 3 percent from last month and 8 percent higher than 1996. Based on June 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 1.18 tons per acre, up 3 percent from the last forecast and 5 percent above the previous year. Harvested area is placed at 40.8 million acres, up 3 percent from 1996.

California's Durum wheat production is forecast at 371 thousand tons, unchanged from last month, but 10 percent below last year. Acreage expected for harvest, at 130 thousand, is 6 percent below last year. The expected yield of 2.85 tons per acre is down 5 percent from 1996. Harvest in the desert valleys was approximately 75 percent complete as of June 1.

TOP PRODUCING COUNTIES OF 1996 FOR ALL WHEAT TONNAGE PRODUCED

IMPERIAL	344,400
YOLO	138,600
FRESNO	125,700
KERN	113,850
KINGS	104,700
COLUSA	93,450
SAN JOAQUIN	91,500
SOLANO	84,000
TULARE	77,700
RIVERSIDE	67,050
SUTTER	48,600
GLENN	46,050
SACRAMENTO	46,050
MADERA	45,900

WHEAT ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION, JUNE 1, 1997

Crop & Location	Harvested Acres		Yield		Production	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
WINTER	-- 1,000 --		-- Tons --		-- 1,000 Tons --	
California	550	380	2.07	1.95	1,139	741
U.S.	39,709	40,847	1.12	1.18	44,341	48,107
DURUM						
California	138	130	3.00	2.85	414	371
Arizona	164	99	2.70	2.85	443	282
U.S.	3,546	a/	0.98	b/	3,475	b/

a/ Published June 30, 1997.

b/ Published July 11, 1997.

1996 U.S. COTTON GINNINGS

A total of 18.4 million running bales were ginned during the 1996 season, 6 percent more than 1995's ginnings of 17.5 million bales. The crop was characterized by favorable conditions throughout the majority of the cotton belt, although Louisiana's crop experienced dry conditions that lowered production potential from early season expectations. California suffered extremely high temperatures during September, which reduced yields.

Active cotton gins totaled 1,214 during the 1996 season, down from 1,274 operated in 1995. Although active gins were 5 percent fewer than the previous season, the continued changes to high-speed ginning equipment allowed gins to keep pace with the large crop. Ginning firms processing more than 20,000 bales in 1996 totaled 358, of which 96 processed at least 40,000 bales.

COTTON GINNINGS: RUNNING BALES GINNED (EXCLUDING LINTERS) BY TYPE, STATE AND UNITED STATES, CROP YEARS 1993-96

Type and State	1993	1994	1995	1996
- - - - Bales - - - -				
ALL COTTON				
Alabama	440,950	687,850	460,650	755,850
Arizona	816,750	821,650	831,750	812,850
Arkansas	1,101,500	1,766,950	1,452,900	1,593,150
California	3,063,300	2,821,200	2,462,350	2,687,550
Florida <u>1/</u>	96,650	---	---	---
Georgia	703,400	1,500,900	1,908,900	2,041,500
Kansas <u>1/</u> <u>2/</u>	---	---	---	---
Louisiana	1,106,300	1,513,100	1,378,550	1,299,450
Mississippi	1,510,050	2,083,350	1,806,850	1,819,250
Missouri	336,000	555,350	477,400	557,250
New Mexico	72,950	68,250	69,700	89,600
North Carolina	417,100	806,150	787,950	985,100
Oklahoma	257,100	232,400	117,250	126,100
South Carolina	196,350	370,000	351,900	434,000
Tennessee	529,200	863,250	713,150	664,100
Texas	4,996,900	4,845,700	4,413,500	4,294,450
Virginia <u>1/</u>	---	---	128,250	153,000
UNITED STATES	15,675,070	19,127,300	17,468,500	18,438,550
AMERICAN-PIMA				
Arizona	84,550	78,150	70,750	72,450
California	206,700	178,300	215,050	360,200
New Mexico	12,850	14,100	13,900	14,450
Texas	52,500	56,100	54,950	62,900
OTHER STATES	270	---	---	---
UNITED STATES	356,870	326,650	354,650	510,000

1/ Not published to avoid disclosing individual gins, but included in the U.S. totals.

2/ No gins operated in 1994 season.

COTTON GINNINGS: ALL COTTON RUNNING BALES GINNED (EXCLUDING LINTERS), EQUIVALENT 480-POUND BALES GINNED, RUNNING BALES PRODUCED BY COUNTY, AND U.S. COUNTY RANK, 1996 CROP

County	Running Bales Ginned	Equivalent 480-Pound Bales Ginned	Running Bales Produced	U.S. Rank by Running Bales Produced
Butte <u>1/</u>	---	---	---	554
Colusa <u>1/</u>	---	---	6,550	323
Fresno	966,350	1,002,200	987,750	1
Glenn	---	---	1,400	452
Imperial <u>1/</u>	---	---	15,800	228
Kern	601,000	619,300	633,900	2
Kings	507,800	524,950	499,850	3
Madera <u>1/</u>	---	---	75,350	58
Merced	183,700	189,100	213,250	13
Riverside <u>1/</u>	---	---	28,350	157
San Bernardino	---	---	1,950	418
Sutter <u>1/</u>	---	---	---	561
Tehama <u>1/</u>	---	---	---	532
Tulare	246,000	254,000	204,550	14
Yolo	---	---	3,400	368
California Total	2,687,550	2,778,400	2,673,350	---

1/ Not published to avoid disclosing individual gins, but included in State total.

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - MAY 1997

Mid-May prices received by California farmers increased from April for wheat, dry edible beans, all types of hay, and Upland cotton lint. Prices for all potatoes and fall potatoes were below previous month levels. Barley prices were not published to avoid disclosure of individual buyers. Prices at mid-May were above a year earlier for dry edible beans and all types of hay. Upland cotton lint and all types of potatoes were below May 1996 levels.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX GAINS 1 POINT

The All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in May was 107 based on 1990-92 = 100, up one point (0.9 percent) from April. Since April, price increases for hogs, strawberries, cattle, and lemons were offset by price decreases for lettuce, milk, corn, and broilers. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall index level. Higher seasonal marketings of cantaloupes, sweet corn, grapes, and wheat more than offset the relatively lower marketings of cattle, milk, cotton, and corn. These changes contributed to virtually the entire increase in the overall index.

Compared with May 1996, the All Farm Products Index was five points (4.5 percent) lower. From May 1996, price decreases for corn, wheat, milk, and potatoes more than offset price increases for cattle, soybeans, hay, and calves.

The May all crops index was 117, up 1.7 percent from April, but 11 percent below May 1996. From April, price increases for fruits, oilseeds, potatoes, and dry beans more than offset price decreases for vegetables, feed grains and hay, and food grains.

The May feed grains & hay index was 124, down 2.4 percent from last month and 27 percent below May 1996. The corn price, at \$4.79 per cwt., was down 21 cents from April and \$2.60 below the May 1996 price. The all hay price, at \$118.00 per ton, was up \$1.00 from April.

The May food grains index, at 138, was down 1.4 percent from the previous month and 25 percent below May 1996. The May all wheat price, at \$6.82 per cwt., was down 3 cents from April and \$2.76 below the May 1996 price.

The May potatoes and dry beans index, at 90, was up 7.1 percent from April, but 35 percent below May 1996. The May potato price, at \$4.87 per cwt., was up 32 cents from April, but \$3.22 below May 1996. New season potato prices increased as a result of heavy rainstorms in the Hastings, Florida area. Prices for fall potatoes continue to decline.

FARM PRICES: AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS a/

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		May 1996	Apr. 1997	May 15, 1997	May 1996	Apr. 1997	May 15, 1997
		----- Dollars -----					
Corn <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	---	---	---	7.39	5.00	4.79
Wheat <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	<u>c/</u>	7.23	7.42	9.58	6.85	6.82
Oats <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	---	---	---	7.75	5.84	5.66
Barley <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	8.35	<u>c/</u>	<u>c/</u>	7.19	4.73	4.94
Sorghum Grain <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	---	---	---	7.65	4.34	4.16
Rice <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	---	---	---	9.73	10.20	9.78
Dry Edible Beans <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	35.30	39.40	39.60	24.80	22.60	23.50
All Potatoes <u>d/</u>	Cwt.	11.20	9.75	7.85	8.09	4.55	4.87
Winter	Cwt.	---	21.80	---	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	12.50	---	9.00	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	9.20	4.60	4.55	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled <u>b/</u>	Ton	102.00	128.00	133.00	95.50	117.00	118.00
Alfalfa Hay, Baled <u>b/</u>	Ton	104.00	132.00	138.00	100.00	123.00	127.00
Other Hay, Baled <u>b/</u>	Ton	77.00	92.00	97.00	75.70	82.30	84.80
Upland Cotton Lint <u>b/</u>	Lb.	0.806	0.735	0.762	0.767	0.673	0.666
Cottonseed	Ton	---	---	---	---	---	---

INDEX NUMBER OF PRICES RECEIVED AND PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, UNITED STATES

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	May 1996	Apr. 1997	May 1997	May 1996	Apr. 1997	May 1997
Prices Received						
All Farm Products	710	673	682	112	106	107
All Crops	645	569 <u>e/</u>	576	131	115	117
Food Grains	584	445 <u>e/</u>	439	184	140 <u>e/</u>	138
Feed Grains and Hay	606	453	442	170	127	124
Cotton	648	569 <u>e/</u>	563	127	111 <u>e/</u>	110
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	696	427 <u>e/</u>	454	138	84 <u>e/</u>	90
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities,						
Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates <u>f/</u>	1,509	1,536 <u>e/</u>	1,538	115	117	117
Parity Ratio <u>g/</u>	47	44	44	97	91	91

a/ The estimated prices shown in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers. They are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole. b/ Previous month revised to monthly average. c/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual buyers. d/ Monthly average e/ Revised. f/ All production indexes as of 15th of month. g/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates.